

LET a smile go along with your Christmas greeting.

HOME EDITION

SPRIT OF PEACE AND GOOD WILL

This Christmas Day is an Ideal One in Topeka.

Prosperous Year in Business is Fittingly Rounded Out.

FINDS MANY LIBERAL GIVERS

Many Organizations and Individuals Have United

In an Effort to See That No One Is Overlooked.

For the great majority of Topeka people this day lacks little to make it an ideal Christmas.

The year 1915 has been an unusually prosperous one. Surplus money has been more plentiful this fall. Business has been good. Then yesterday, the day before Christmas, came the blanket of snow, making true Christmas weather. Today the sky is cloudless, the air is crisp and the bright sunshine makes the snow glitter. All in all it is an ideal Christmas day.

If there is a child in Topeka who did not receive something for Christmas, who was not remembered in some way, it is a mistake. Through different organizations efforts have been made to reach every one.

While there were many Christmas celebrations last night and this morning, of course the real Christmas was in the homes. Probably there are more Christmas trees in Topeka than ever before, due to the fact that an immense shipment was brought in to sell at a very low price. In hundreds of homes the highly decorated tree was turned over to the youngsters last night but in the main Topekans cling to the old custom of the morning Christmas tree. Households rang with the delighted shouts of the children at all hours this morning.

Automobiles loaded down with presents are chugging to and fro over Topeka, this morning looking up 2-3 degrees obtained in advance and unloading toys, clothing and Christmas dinners for the less fortunate. There are hundreds of children and grown folks—who have been made happier today through the kindness of charity—implied people.

Children Taught to Give. Children of the more fortunate in Topeka are being taught that it is more blessed to give than to receive. (Continued on Page 2)

NATION OF SLUSH

Teutons Revel in Gloomy Weather and War God's Grip.

Long List of Victories Offset All Minor Discomforts.

Berlin, Dec. 25.—Germany is celebrating the second war Christmas under the worst conceivable climatic conditions. Snow had been steadily falling throughout the empire for a week favoring every promise of a white Christmas, but a heavy rain and steady rain has converted the white snow mantle to a deep slush. In spite, however, of the gloomy weather, it is a cheerful Christmas. Encouraged by the long record of German victories and the satisfactory conclusion of the war, the German people are making up their minds there is no immediate prospect of peace, the people generally even seem to ignore the probability of an indefinite continuation of the war and minor discomforts, such as bread cards and other food regulations, will celebrate the great German festival in the traditional spirit.

A large proportion of the nation's manhood, of course, will observe the day in the trenches and bomb proofs. Last year almost every decent and shelter had its decorated and garlanded Christmas tree and the men received Christmas gifts and other cheer from home. A similar condition prevailed today.

The army authorities this year have been most liberal in granting Christmas furloughs and thousands of veterans will spend Christmas with their families. For a week past, the streets of Berlin and of other cities have been crowded with returning soldiers dressed in their war uniforms. All the merchants realize that they had a good Christmas trade. The dealers in jewelry and other luxuries say they have virtually sold out their wares, and the stocks of the expensive florists and confectioners are almost depleted. Toy dealers and the establishments patronized by the army also have done exceptional business during December, which is considered to show there is no appreciable scarcity of money.

DROPPED TO 18 DEGREES

The Snowfall Totaled 3.2 Inches But Much of It Melted as It Fell.

The lowest temperature last night was 18 degrees, three degrees higher than the expected minimum. The total snowfall for Friday was 3.2 inches. At sundown last night the snow had melted down to 2.7 inches. Christmas day is clear and bright and the prospect is for warmer weather tonight.

Fair weather with higher temperatures tonight, with cloudy weather Sunday followed by a severe drop of the mercury and a fall of rain or snow is expected. The forecast reads: "Fair and warmer tonight; Sunday increasing cloudiness, followed by rain or snow and much colder Sunday night."

A THOUGHT FOR YOU.

Christmas is a time for retrospection. In a commercial organization, to take account of the past year, and make plans for the new.

The City of Topeka, commercially has much to be thankful for; trade has been good, labor has been well employed, and both public and private improvements have continued in a steady manner. Topeka is rapidly forging ahead and the best retail center in the State.

The Commercial club congratulates itself on the harmonious spirit shown by the business men, toward its organization. It has had a successful year, and the business men are rapidly beginning to realize that the problem is not "What does the Commercial club do for me," "What can I do for the Commercial club?" to the end that the city in which we live, make our money, and educate our children, may in 1916, be a better, busier, and more prosperous city.

CHARLES S. ELLIOTT, President of Topeka Commercial Club.

BEWARE THE KISS

"Red Flag" Warnings Sent Out by Government Officials.

Epidemic of Grip Grows Serious in United States.

GUARDS AGAINST GRIPPE.

Don't kiss infected persons—or any one else if you are infected. Avoid the careless sneeze, and the spitter. Don't work or live in stuffy, ill ventilated offices or homes. Sleep out doors if possible, take outdoor exercise, but avoid chilling. Don't wear heavy flannels, the drinking cup and things others use that might carry infection. Don't rely on alcohol for cure—get a doctor.

Washington, Dec. 25.—With epidemics of grippe—the old fashioned influenza—our grandfathers knew reported in various parts of the United States and other nations threatened, "red flag" warnings were given today by Dr. W. C. Rucker, assistant surgeon general of the United States public health service.

Camel, N. J.: Jackson, Miss., and a number of middle western cities have reported severe grippe epidemics to the health service.

"Grippe is not to be sneezed at," Dr. Rucker declared.

Causes 12,000 Deaths. "The latest statistics show it is causing the death of 12,000 persons annually in the United States. Right now is the middle of the grippe season. It began in November. The advent of cold weather, closing windows and hot furnaces, and attains its maximum in February and early March.

"We must keep up our physical defense, our preparedness against this disease. Fresh air, outdoor sleeping and plenty of outdoor exercise. Sneezing and coughing or else spitting cause the spreading of the disease.

"Children's kissing games spread the grippe. Kissing between infected and non-infected persons should be avoided. Guard against being sneezed or coughed at or upon. Isolation of infected persons is possible, and avoidance of crowds and other articles they may touch to their hands, mouths or noses should be observed.

Have Good Ventilation. "Overcrowded houses and offices and lack of exercise are the chief causes of the disease."

Dr. Rucker said medical records show grippe is an old human foe. The first epidemic was recorded in 1173 and the first in the western hemisphere in 1821 in Massachusetts, spreading as far south as Chile. One of the freak and unsolved features of grippe epidemics is that they travel from east to west in a community.

FILM COURT EVIDENCE

Moving Picture Scene Used in Supreme Court in New York for First Time.

New York, Dec. 25.—For the first time in the history of the supreme court, a moving picture film was introduced in evidence Friday before Justice Guggenheim in a moving picture play. In an orchard scene she climbed a tree and hung from a limb as directed. When a supposed lunatic ran by the tree she dropped.

While climbing she struck a root of the tree and broke her left ankle. The film shown to the jurors exhibited her falling and writhing in pain on the ground. She received for \$15,000, alleging negligence.

XMAS DON'T STOP 'EM

Russian Cruisers Bombard Bulgarian Port—Increased Activity of Black Sea Fleet Is Reported.

Bucharest, Dec. 25.—Four Russian cruisers and two torpedo boats bombarded the Bulgarian port of Euxinograd, doing severe damage, according to advices received here today.

The increasing activity of the Russian Black sea fleet suggests that some of the recent reports about the crippling of the Turkish navy may be true. For the past two months Russian squadrons apparently unmolested have been putting into effect the rate of 23 cents a thousand feet for gas, according to the recent ruling of the public utilities commission.

U. S. CHRISTMAS A JOYOUS ONE

Prosperity and Lavishness Mark Celebrations.

Municipal Holiday Spirit Manifested in Gorgeous Display.

LARGE OUTLAY TO CHARITY

Poor in All Cities Come In for Share of Generosities.

Washington Celebrates With-out President and Bride.

New York, Dec. 25.—New York City celebrated a joyous and prosperous Christmas with a lavish distribution of gifts and an unusually large outlay of charity. After a display of community trees in various parks and public centers throughout the city last night the day was ushered in, not only here but throughout the archdiocese of New York, with midnight masses in most of the Catholic churches. This was the first time in 15 years that midnight mass was celebrated. It is estimated that one million persons heard the masses. Baskets of food were distributed to 20,000 persons by the Salvation Army and the Volunteers of America. A unusual incident of the celebration was the dinner given by the crew of the battleship New York at 100 boys and girls who otherwise would have had no Christmas dinner. Santa Claus brought a pair of shoes for every boy and girl, dolls for the girls and scout suits for the boys. Throughout the financial district the employees of stock exchanges, banks and other financial institutions were made happy by gifts amounting to nearly a million dollars. The New York stock exchange had distributed among its employees from 5 to 50 per cent bonuses.

NEW FORCES IN

Government Troops Join Revolutionists in Yunnan.

General Hwang Hsing Tells of Conditions in Provinces.

Peking, Dec. 25.—The government troops in the province of Yunnan have been ordered to join the revolutionists. General Hwang Hsing, who has declared the province independent and guaranteed the safety of foreigners.

The revolutionary forces now number 3,000. Conditions in the province of Kwelchow are unsettled but disaffected troops have been reported in the other southern provinces.

Uphold Republican Government. Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 25.—General Hwang Hsing, former minister of war of the Chinese republic and a one time generalissimo of the revolution, arrived in Yunnan today at his home. Whether the bloody struggle for the object of the present uprising is the upholding of the Republican form of government and the punishment of Yuan Shih Kai, which he is in constant communication, aim, he said, to re-establish the republic and to protect the lives and property of foreign residents in China but will not recognize contracts, loans or concessions made by Yuan Shih Kai after the date of the uprising. They will fight under the flag of the Chinese republic.

With the addition of white troops, inscribed with Chinese characters, declaring for the punishment of Yuan Shih Kai.

The general, who has devoted his life to the establishment of a republic form of government in China and led an expedition against Yuan Shih Kai from Nanking, said tonight that Tsai Ao, who is leading the present uprising in Yunnan, will receive support from many other provinces. Tsai Ao, he said, is an able man and was brought to Peking by Yuan Shih Kai and made a general of the collection of taxes because the president feared Tsai Ao's power in Yunnan.

Tsai Ao, according to General Hwang Hsing, was imprisoned by the officers and soldiers who had revolted under him in Yunnan. He managed to leave Peking on leave of absence and returned to Yunnan on December 18, according to a recent cablegram received at Media. General Hwang Hsing said that the government troops had not joined in the revolt as it was their officers who had summoned Tsai Ao to lead them.

The province of Szechuen, which is immediately north of Yunnan, is also in full sympathy with the movement of the revolutionists. The general said, and their troops would be with him and against the revolutionists. In the provinces of Kweichow and Kwangsi, in the southern section of China, the people are almost unanimously in sympathy with the revolutionists. According to advices received by General Hwang Hsing, his latest cablegram received from Shanghai was undeciphered because of his official position. The words used in the code had been purposely mixed up.

General Hwang Hsing said he probably would return to China in the near future.

ENJOIN GAS COMPANY

Independence Will Restrict Kansas Natural Gas Receivers From Making 23 Cent Rate Effective.

Independence, Kan., Dec. 25.—The board of city commissioners has instructed city attorney to take such steps as may seem necessary to enjoin the receivers of the Kansas Natural Gas company and restrain the company from putting into effect the rate of 23 cents a thousand feet for gas, according to the recent ruling of the public utilities commission.

Kaiser Wilhelm Says Neutrality Will Be Respected in His Christmas Proclamation.

Rome, Dec. 25.—Kaiser Wilhelm has issued a Christmas proclamation to the people of Serbia, promising to respect their neutrality and urging them to return to their homes.

Advices to the Serbian legation today stated that the Germans have installed a provisional government at Nish and have authorized the withdrawal of all Austrian and Bulgarian troops from the city. The Austrians and Bulgars are dissatisfied over this arrangement. The Serbian legation stated.

THE LAST CHRISTMAS PACKAGE



NO CHEER THERE HE GAVE UP NISH FRESH ROW NOW

Christmas Does Not Stop Slaughter in Europe. Douglas Dold of New York Surrendered Serbian City.

Conspicuous Absence of Friendly Truces Noted. Invading Bulgarians Acted Fine, Dold Reports.

European Capitals Happy Months of Man Killing Efforts Fails to Stop Merriment.

A White Christmas on Austro-German-Russian Front.

London, Dec. 25.—Christmas day brought no cessation of the slaughter in Europe. In every theater of war fighting continued but no important engagements were expected to occur today.

Nowhere was any friendly truce declared. But along the Franco-Flanders line, where French and British face Germans, firing ceased almost entirely at night while Santa Claus sped along the trenches.

What actually occurred along the front stretching from the English channel to Switzerland, on Christmas eve, probably will not be known for another twenty-four hours. But from the bloody struggle reports today of a lull in the fighting on the northern and western wings of the long fighting line throughout the night.

Whether the bloody struggle for possession of Hartmann-Weilerkopf, in Alsace, was continued last night was not known in Paris at an early hour today.

Advance news from the European capitals indicated that seventeen months of man killing had not dulled the Christmas spirit in the hearts of the warring millions. They picture scenes of merriment not only behind the battlefield but in the first line trenches, where packages from home were unwrapped last night and today.

Officers on leave of absence for the day declared that, despite the lack of a formal truce, few shots will be fired in France and Flanders during the period extending from sunset last night to midnight tonight. Everywhere outposts of the opposing armies were on the alert, they said, and predicted there would be a swift understanding not to interrupt Christmas merrymaking by showers of shells.

On the Austro-German-Russian front it was a white Christmas. In the Vosges mountains and at other points where the fighting line snow covered the trenches, but in the Balkans and on Gallipoli, according to Athens dispatches, moderate weather prevailed.

MESSAGE TO SERBIA MORE TROOPS TO JUAREZ

3,000 of Carranza's Force Pass Through United States—To Help Suppress Disorders.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Permission was given today for 3,000 more Carranza troops to pass through the United States on their way from Agua Prieta to Juarez. They go to strengthen the garrison in the former Villa stronghold and suppress disorders, as well as to take part in the campaign to the south.

In giving permission for the passage the stipulation was made that the Mexican troops should not go through the city of El Paso but should pass around it to the international bridge.

IN TOPEKA 55,485

Figures Compiled by the Polk-Radges Directory People

Show a Big Increase in City's Population Since 1910.

OVER 50,000 IN CITY PROPER

Oakland Is Largest Suburb, With 1,539 Persons.

Highland Park Follows With a Total of 1,364.

The population of Topeka and its suburbs is 55,485 according to authentic figures given out today by the Polk-Radges directory company. In Topeka there are 51,476 people and in the outlying precincts, Oakland, Seabrook, Highland Park, Shorey and Garfield, 4,009.

This shows that Topeka has grown considerably since the 1910 official United States census. At that time Topeka was credited with 43,684. The directory census is the first semi-official one since the population was figured out by Uncle Sam.

The employees working on the new 1915 city directory visited every home in Topeka and in addition to gathering the data about all citizens over 18 years of age, the number of children in each family was taken down. The figures are believed to be accurate and are not composed of the "floating" members of Topeka's population.

Oakland is the largest suburb of Topeka. There are 1,539 people living there. Highland Park has 1,364; Seabrook, 456; Shorey, 232, and Garfield, 228.

The Polk-Radges Directory company is today finishing up the complete compilation of the city and suburbs, according to Charles L. Mitchell. The work will go to the machines the first thing Monday morning and the directory is scheduled for public appearance the middle of January.

The new directory will be larger than any other, inasmuch as it contains the names of every person in the city as well as their husbands. Telephone numbers, occupations and house and business addresses are being compiled. The types of every farmer in Shawnee county, with each route number is to appear, through the assistance of Postoffice inspectors. In addition to the county taxpayers list, there are other features of note.

STORM KILLS TWO

Death and Injury Follow Heavy Snow at St. Louis.

Man Died in Church After Walk Through Snowstorm.

St. Louis, Dec. 25.—Two men are dead and two persons injured in the city of St. Louis' first heavy snow storm of the year.

One of the dead, O'Donnell, 67, died in the vestibule of St. Laborious Catholic church. When O'Donnell entered the church he intended to deliver a number of Christmas gifts to poor families. An hour later his body was found on the floor of the garage engine running. The small room filled with gas fumes.

FOR RURAL LOAN BANKS

System of Agricultural Funds to Go on the Board When Congress Reconvenes.

Washington, Dec. 25.—When congress reconvenes after the holidays recess a land mortgage bill, creating the official machinery for a system of agricultural banks entirely distinct and separate from the commercial banks, will be ready for consideration by both houses. The full joint committee on rural credit, which has been working for months in an investigation of the subject with a number of old bills as a basis, is expected to report on the bill completed yesterday.

This measure creates a system of 12 regional land banks for the use of farm borrowers, one in each of the 12 regions. The bill provides where in the United States at a low rate of interest, under control of a central board at Washington divided from existing government offices or federal bureaus. This board comprising five members, will have almost supreme authority over land mortgages figuring in the system. Members of the board will be appointed by the president subject to the approval of the senate.

The members of the subcommittee on personal credit have been particularly active in the land mortgage legislation, and as the two subcommittees comprise the full joint committee, the agreement on the land mortgage bill ensures its speedy transmission to the senate and house. The personal credit legislation as a separate measure is not yet in actual although there have been some discussions before that subcommittee and some legislation in the senate is taken care of in the land mortgage loan bill.

TO HEAR NAVAL BILL

Naval Affairs Committee Will Get Around to Appropriation Bill by January 5.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Hearings on the naval appropriation bill will begin before the house naval affairs committee probably Jan. 5, it was announced today. The navy department's recommendation for provision in the bill for a dry dock at Norfolk with a cost of \$3,500,000, the principal dock problem in the naval plans, was reported today.

It is understood, on this committee probably will be William Jennings Bryan, Miss Jane Addams, of Chicago, Red Jenkins, Lloyd Jones and Frederick Holt, provided they accept.

Governor Hanna's reasons for quitting the party, it was learned today, was the alleged misrepresentation of certain of the Ford lieutenants. It was reported today that the peace party will go only to Copenhagen, abandoning the plan to visit the Hague on account of the cool reception in neutral countries visited thus far. A conference will be called at Copenhagen, sit a few days and then adjourn after naming a peace committee. It is understood, on this committee probably will be William Jennings Bryan, Miss Jane Addams, of Chicago, Red Jenkins, Lloyd Jones and Frederick Holt, provided they accept.

Embarrassed the Governor. When Hanna made informal calls on Norwegian officials, who received him because of his official position, the Ford agents, he alleged, caused the public to believe that these interviews were connected with the peace propaganda, thus placing the governor in an embarrassing position.

News that Ford actually had sailed for New York reached the party today in a dispatch from Christiania. It threw cold water on the enterprise and spoiled Christmas for many of the delegates, who were already homesick. They sat about the lobbies, talking disconsolately and wondering what was going on in America at Christmas time. Only a few persons met the train there.

Plenty of Cheer for Workers. Worcester, Dec. 25.—The Graton and Knight Manufacturing company today distributed \$35,000 among its 1,700 employees as bonuses for loyalty during the past year in an unprecedented rush of business.

WEATHER forecast for Kansas: Fair and warmer tonight; increasing cloudiness Sunday, with rain or snow, and much colder Sunday night.

THIS EDITION 2 CENTS

LOOKS LIKE A HARD WINTER

Kansas Democratic Congressmen Must Travel Rough Road.

Home Voters are Not in Agreement With Washington.

CANNOT SERVE TWO MASTERS

President's Preparedness Program Is Causing Friction.

Kansans Have Little Use for Army or Navy.

Democratic members of the Kansas delegation in Washington are facing a bad winter. The national administration's program for preparedness and the attitude of the Kansas voter regarding national defenses do not harmonize. As a consequence, the Kansas Democratic congressmen who can maintain his standing with the Wilson crowd in Washington and not lose prestige with the folks at home is a wise statesman.

For years a Democratic congressman has been able to look over conditions, size up the demands of the situation, and vote in a manner to cause the Republicans as much embarrassment as possible. Now he finds himself tied to the national administration. In order to prevent a break in Washington, the most steady close to the Wilson policies are quoted below. Now the congressional delegation is wading between a pleasant (Continued on Page Two.)

AUTO GAS KILLS

Chicago Man Dies From "Petromortis." Physicians Say.

Was Starting on Christmas Journey When Death Came.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—Eugene Humphrey, a lawyer, is dead at his home here today of what physicians term "petromortis," a condition caused by the fumes of an automobile gas pump. According to physicians, the first fatal case in Chicago from that cause. An idea of the violence with which the fumes attack is given by the fact that the victim was given today by Dr. John D. Ellis, head of the department of occupational diseases of Rush Medical college.

The thing is new to science in some of its aspects, said Dr. Ellis. "Persons who are subject to this may be attacked when in a close, small garage. The danger lies in a failure of certain elements in the gasoline to oxidize. In any event there is a quick suffocation of a violent gas which renders the victim faint. If the exhaust of an automobile continues the result is almost instant death. The postmortem showings are those of brain and lung congestion.

Humphrey went to his garage last night to get his automobile in which he intended to deliver a number of Christmas gifts to poor families. An hour later his body was found on the floor of the garage engine running. The small room filled with gas fumes.

HE SLEEPS ON HIS FEET

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POPE STILL HOPES

His Holiness States That He Has Not Abandoned Hope for an Early Peace.

Rome, Dec. 25.—Pope Benedict has not abandoned hope for an early peace. It was learned today. In replying to a Christmas address on behalf of the sacred college, he admitted that his present efforts had been fruitless but said he was determined to continue his peace efforts.